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Hollingbourn Rural District Council

Annual Report for the Year 1971

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE
HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. F. H. M. DUMMER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. J. K. W. Alexander	(Chairman)
Mr. L. H. Woodcock	(Vice Chairman)

Mr. R. A. Batcheller	Mrs. A. G. R. Nissen
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Mr. E. A. Jenkins	Mr. K. A. Twyman
Mrs. K. S. Mitchell	Mr. R. W. Woods

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

OF THE

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Medical Officer of Health	Dr. F. H. M. Dummer M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	Dr. J. T. Cecil, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	Geoffrey H. Chambers, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
1st Additional Public Health Inspector	Stanley B. Brook, M.A.P.H.I.
2nd Additional Public Health Inspector	Richard C. Comport, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Resigned 31st December, 1971)
Clerk to the Public Health Department	Miss P. Cheesman
Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health	Miss H. Wood

Central Health Department,
13, Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

Public Health Department,
73, College Road,
Maidstone.

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Telephone : Maidstone 54238

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifteenth Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Hollingbourn.

Although the health of the District continues to be good, this year's statistical review is overshadowed by the unusually high infantile mortality rate. The explanation for this is given in the body of the Report, and in my opinion in no way reflects on the high standard of maternal and infant care which has always been a feature of this area. As you will see from the Report, no deaths occurred from maternal causes or as a result of abortion.

I am pleased to be able to report that despite an increase in the over all population of the District, the number of cancer deaths fell from 51 in 1970 to 43 in 1971. There was a decrease in intestinal cancer and in cancer of the lung. Although no death occurred from uterine cancer, the deaths due to cancer of the breast doubled in the year, from 4 to 8.

The level of immunisation and vaccination has been maintained and it is very important that so it should remain, so that the proper level of immunity should be held throughout your District.

Again my thanks are due to the Inspectorate, led by Mr. Chambers, for their work and co-operation throughout the year. As a small department in a relatively small Authority, we need co-operation with the other officers and I am pleased to say that we have always obtained that help from the Clerk, the Surveyor, the Treasurer and the Housing Manager.

Ultimately the Members make the decisions and I must express my thanks for the support given to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and indeed all Councillors.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

11th May, 1972

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56,796
Estimated resident population 1971	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21,190
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1971 (according to rate books)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,387
Rateable Value, December, 1971	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£883,281
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£8,671

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	156	173	329
Rate per 1,000 population - crude -	..	..	15.5
corrected -	..	..	17.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	3.3

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stillbirths	1	1	2
Total live and stillbirths	157	174	331
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	..	..	6.0

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infant deaths	4	6	10
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	30.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	31.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	27.3
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	24.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	30.2
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	120	106	226
Death rate per 1,000 population - crude -	..	..	10.7
corrected	..	..	10.3

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	TOTAL DEATHS
Measles	21	-
Dysentery	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	-
Whooping Cough	2	-
Infective Jaundice	3	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tetanus	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-
Acute Encephalitis -	-	-
Infective	-	-
Post infectious	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-
Malaria	-	-
TOTALS	31	-

The above figures show a marked decrease in the incidence of infectious disease during 1971, compared with 1970 when the total was 196.

No particular disease showed any undue prevalence and once again the District has been free from poliomyelitis, diphtheria and smallpox.



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INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Analysis in Age Groups

DISEASE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45 & over	TOTAL
Measles	2	4	2	1	1	4	5	2	-	-	21
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	4
Whooping cough	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infective jaundice	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis - Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post Infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	5	2	1	3	5	6	4	2	1	31

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Continued)

Monthly Distribution

DISEASE	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Measles	4	-	1	2	2	8	1	3	-	-	-	-	21
Dysentery	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Whooping cough	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infective jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	-	3	5	2	8	2	3	-	1	2	1	31

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION, 1971

The following table shows the figures for 1971 based on the return sent to the Department of Health and Social Security by the County Medical Officer

Year of Birth	Primary							Reinforcing					
	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Rubella	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis
1971	3	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1970	169	4	22	-	53	183	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
1969	82	1	92	2	74	86	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
1968	5	-	7	1	39	6	-	1	2	-	3	-	-
1967	5	-	4	2	12	2	-	1	15	1	5	-	15
1964-1965	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	7	34	2	6	-	31
1966	-	1	-	1	14	-	-	21	164	2	1	-	190
1955-1963	-	-	-	49	2	-	128	2	19	16	98	-	14
TOTALS	264	6	127	55	198	280	128	33	235	21	115	-	250

Smallpox vaccinations at County Clinics were discontinued as from 30th July, 1971

TUBERCULOSIS

I am indebted to Dr. A. P. Bentley, the Consultant Chest Physician, for the following details of the numbers of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures relate to the area of the Chest Clinic, which coincides with the area of the four Authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone Rural District, Hollingbourn Rural District and Malling Rural District.

- (a) Number of contacts seen during 1971 of newly notified cases of tuberculosis .. 178
- (b) Number of contacts examined during 1971 of cases notified prior to 1971 138
- (c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis -
- (d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 1

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 74	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Again the number of new cases of tuberculosis is extremely low and the mortality once more indicates the relatively minor role this disease now plays in the community causes of death.

CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer, including leukaemia, in Hollingbourn Rural District during the past ten years is given below:-

1962	37
1963	43
1964	48
1965	45
1966	30
1967	50
1968	33
1969	41
1970	51
1971	43

SITE	Male	Female	Total
Buccal cavity	-	-	-
Oesophagus	1	1	2
Stomach	2	-	2
Intestine	2	3	5
Larynx	-	-	-
Lung, bronchus	7	4	11
Breast	-	8	8
Uterus	-	-	-
Prostate	4	-	4
Other sites	4	6	10
Leukaemia	1	-	1
TOTALS	21	22	43

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	-
25 - 34	1	-
35 - 44	-	-
45 - 54	-	2
55 - 64	6	5
65 - 74	7	7
75 & over	7	8
TOTALS	21	22

INFANT MORTALITY, 1971

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Congenital heart Disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Encephalocele	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of the Newborn	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Prematurity	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Pulmonary Syndrome of the Newborn	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
TOTALS	9	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	9

Although the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys has recorded 10 infant deaths, and the statistics on pages 2 and 24 have been based on that figure, only 9 infant deaths have been traced in local records.

In 1970 the infantile mortality rate was the lowest ever recorded in the District. This year it has leapt up, due mainly to an unusual number of unavoidable deaths. Of the above recorded deaths, two were caused by congenital abnormalities, two by extreme prematurity, and two by severe respiratory conditions in the first few days of life.

None of these infants lived beyond one week.

TOTAL DEATHS, 1971

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Cholera	-	-
2. Typhoid fever	-	-
3. Bacillary dysentery and amoebiasis	-	-
4. Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-
5. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	-
6. Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	1	-
7. Other tuberculosis	-	-
8. Plague	-	-
9. Diphtheria	-	-
10. Whooping cough	-	-
11. Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever	-	-
12. Meningococcal infection	-	-
13. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
14. Smallpox	-	-
15. Measles	-	-
16. Typhus and other rickettsioses	-	-
17. Malaria	-	-
18. Syphilis and its sequelae	-	-
19. All other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
20. Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity	-	-
21. Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	1
22. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-
23. Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	3
24. Malignant neoplasm, larynx	-	-
25. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	4
26. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8
27. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
28. Malignant neoplasm, prostate	4	-
29. Leukaemia	1	-
30. Other malignant neoplasms	4	6
31. Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	-
32. Diabetes mellitus	-	2
33. Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiencies	-	-
34. Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	-	-
35. Anaemias	-	-
36. Other diseases of blood and blood forming organs	-	-
37. Mental disorders	-	-
38. Meningitis	-	-
	<hr/> 22	<hr/> 24

TOTAL DEATHS, 1971 (Continued)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
39. Multiple sclerosis	-	-
40. Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs	-	1
41. Active rheumatic fever	-	-
42. Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	3
43. Hypertensive disease	2	2
44. Ischaemic heart disease	42	28
45. Other forms of heart disease	3	3
46. Cerebrovascular disease	19	18
47. Other diseases of circulatory system	7	2
48. Influenza	1	-
49. Pneumonia	2	3
50. Bronchitis and emphysema	6	4
51. Asthma	-	-
52. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
53. Peptic ulcer	1	1
54. Appendicitis	-	-
55. Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1
56. Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
57. Other diseases of digestive system	2	2
58. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
59. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
60. Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	1	1
61. Abortion	-	-
62. Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	-	-
63. Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	-	-
64. Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	-	3
65. Congenital anomalies	1	1
66. Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	2	1
67. Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	3
68. Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1
69. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1
70. All other accidents	-	1
71. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	1
72. All other external causes	-	-
	<u>120</u>	<u>106</u>

INSPECTIONS

Depot Administration	837
Slaughterhouses	229
Water Sampling	52
Water Supply	4
Sewage Disposal and Sewers	379
Refuse Disposal	45
Refuse Collection	80
Factories - with Power	7
Factories - non-power	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	40
Building Regulations - Improvement Grant	187
Building Regulations - Public Health Act	2
Initial Visits - Public Health Act	73
Revisits	58
Initial Visits - Housing Act	302
Revisits	174
Infectious Disease	45
Ice Cream Premises	9
Shops Act	19
Civic Amenities Act	66
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	7
Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order	5
Noise Abatement Act	7
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	14
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	54
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations	147
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations	7
Food and Drugs Act	144
Knackers Yard	13
Factory Outworkers	1
Poultry Inspection	49
	<hr/>
	3,057

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifications Received	31
Visits made by Public Health Inspectors	45

NOTICES

Number of Informal Notices served	6
Number of Informal Notices complied with	5
Number of Statutory Notices served	-
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	-
Number of Court Proceedings to require compliance with Notice	-

HOUSING

The accent on housing improvement work continues and as a result slum clearance figures are very similar to last year's. Three Closing Orders and one Demolition Order were made compared with three Demolition Orders in 1970. It is known that a considerable number of houses require detailed inspections for slum clearance purposes but, although it is hoped that an increasing number will be dealt with in the near future, the majority of housing work will undoubtedly continue to be in the field of renovations.

Following is a table showing lettings during the year and which has some relationship to the amount of slum clearance undertaken by your Inspectors. The lettings are all casual vacancies and are of little help in planning slum clearance activities. It is to be hoped that blocks of allocations such as can be expected when new Council estates, however small, are completed will be possible in the coming year.

<u>Total Number of Lettings</u>		<u>No. of Families Rehoused from Slum Clearance Properties</u>	
Council Houses	34 (63)	1	(13)
Old Peoples' Dwellings	7 (19)	1	(Nil)

(Previous Year in Brackets)

Housing Act, 1969

As anticipated, Improvement Grant work has been in excess of the high level in 1970. It is most gratifying to see an improvement grant scheme carried through and I make no apology for reminding you that this means a house made completely fit and which has been fitted with the accepted modern amenities. Interest and the number of enquiries are both being maintained and the considerable amount of time spent during 1971 will no doubt be very similar in the coming year.

Four properties, the subject of Closing or Demolition Orders are included in the Discretionary Grant "completions" in the following table and the Orders were therefore cancelled.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS
HOUSING ACT, 1969

1. Discretionary Grants

Number of applications received	..	..	..	..	61	(60)
Number of applications approved	..	..	..	..	65	(54)
Number of applications actually proceeded with	..			..	52	(48)
Of these 49 were completed	..	..	..	..
Total cost of Improvement Work	..	..	..	..	£135,443	
Total amount of Grants paid	..	..	..	..	£28,410	

2. Standard Grants

Number of applications received	..	..	..	..	16	(24)
Number of applications approved	..	..	..	..	17	(12)
Number of applications actually proceeded with	..			..	13	(16)
Of those 13 the Maximum Grant approved was	..			..	£3,693	
Total amount of Grants paid for 16 completed was					£3,671	

(Figures in brackets relate to 1970)

FOOD PREMISES

Once again I am able to report that the standard of food premises has been generally good. This is undoubtedly due in part to the willing co-operation which owners of all types of premises have given when suggestions of ways of improving the premises concerned have been made by the Department.

Motels	2
Cafes	11
Residential Hotels	3
Roadhouse	1
Public Houses serving meals	14
Public Houses not serving meals	43
Grocers	58
Greengrocers	4
Fishmongers	1
Butchers	8
Food Processing Plants	7
Total	<u>152</u>

The number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act is as follows:-

(i)	for the sale and storage of ice cream	78
(ii)	for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food intended for sale	1

MILK AND DAIRIES

This Authority is responsible only for the registration of Distributors of Milk and 4 registrations were made during the year making a total of 59 on the Register.

ICE CREAM

Two new applications were received for registration. There is a total of 78 on the Register.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

The small quantity of food condemned from the slaughterhouses is collected by Sheppey Glue Works, Queenborough.

Since the opening of three large food warehouses in the District there has been an ever increasing amount of condemned tinstuffs which are buried in the Council's Tip.

FOOD INSPECTION

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the Hollingbourn Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1971.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Milk	64	8
Butter, margarine, lard, cooking fats, cheese (including processed cheese)	3	-
Tinned meats, meat, fish, fish and meat pastes	5	-
Sugar, sugar confectionery, flour confectionery, chocolate products, cereals	1	-
Tea, coffee, cocoa, beverages, minerals, cordials	6	-
Jams, preserves, honey, jellies	4	-
Dried fruit, raw fruit, vegetables, tinned fruit and vegetables	22	-
Pickles, sauces, vinegar, condiments	3	-
Drugs, medicines	7	-
Beer, wines, spirits	10	-
Miscellaneous	4	-
	<hr/> 129	<hr/> 8

UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Untreated Milk (3 samples)

Analysis revealed that although the milk was not watered it had an unusual composition. These samples were follow-ups to a prosecution of the producer. As a result of these enquiries, the Milk Marketing Board has terminated the contract.

Untreated Milk (4 samples)

Antibiotics detected in the samples, but follow-ups proved satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Contained a small amount of extraneous water. Dairy advised.

MEAT INSPECTION

Every animal slaughtered in your District for human consumption is examined by your Inspectors.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number Killed	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	14,927 (14,079)
Number Inspected	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	14,927 (14,079)
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	18 (28)
Carcasses or which some part or organ was condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	980 (952)
Percentage of the number inspected infected with disease other than tubercu- losis or cysticerci	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	6.6 (6.5)
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	66 (62)
Percentage of the number inspected infected with tuberculosis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	0.44 (0.2)

Note: Figures in brackets are for 1970

POULTRY INSPECTION

(a)	Number of poultry processing premises within the District	2
(b)	Number of visits to these premises	49
(c)	Total number of birds processed during the year	1,250,000 +
(d)	Types of birds processed	Turkeys; Ducks; Hens; Broilers; Capons; Pheasants
(e)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Just under 2%
(f)	Weight of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	70,000 lbs. approx.

There has been a continued increase in throughput by the two firms concerned.

The firms observe a good standard of hygiene which is steadily improving as further structural works are carried out to the premises concerned.

KNACKER'S YARD

The Knacker's Yard at Hollingbourne continues to operate satisfactorily and during the year had a throughput of over 1,100 animals, including cows, ewes, calves and horses.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Total registrations as at December, 1971 were as follows:-

Offices	30
Retail Shops	37
Wholesale Shops	12
Catering Establishments	16
	<hr/>
	95
	<hr/>

A total of 47 general inspections were carried out during the year. The greater majority of premises complied with the Act and those that did not only had minor contraventions. In all cases the people concerned have co-operated with the Department and there has been no need for formal action.

SWIMMING POOLS

Samples have been taken at not less than weekly intervals from the school pools when in use and from the hotel pool all the year round.

Most of the schools now have sufficient staff so that more time can be devoted to the maintenance of the pool and as a result the samples taken have been of a higher standard than previously.

The hotel has maintained its high standard throughout the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The Rural District area comprises twenty-three parishes which are served by two private water undertakings. The Mid-Kent Water Company serves the largest area and draws water from underground sources within the District. The resources and the distribution area of the Maidstone Waterworks Company have now been absorbed into the Mid-Kent Water Company. The other undertaking, the Medway Water Board, serves part of the parishes of Boxley, Bredhurst and Detling. All waters are alkaline. The following figures relate to all types of hereditaments.

	<u>No. of Properties</u> <u>connected as at</u> <u>31st December, 1971</u>
<u>Mid-Kent Water Company</u>	
Bicknor	30
Boughton Malherbe	117
Broomfield	315
Chart Sutton	347
East Sutton	97
Frinsted	52
Harrietsham	539
Headcorn	1,069
Hollingbourne	407
Hucking	31
Langley	401
Leeds	277
Lenham	1,110
Otterden	82
Stockbury	238
Sutton Valence	602
Thurnham	571
Ulcombe	297
Wormshill	95
Wychling	48
Boxley	445
Detling	280
	<hr/> 7,450 <hr/>
<u>Medway Water Board</u>	
Boxley	166
Bredhurst	89
Detling	3
	<hr/> 258 <hr/>

Some variation from last year's figures may be due to conversion of two or more houses into one property.

The supply of water to the area as a whole is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Samples of treated water and raw water for biological examination by the Water Undertakings have proved to be pure and wholesome.

Number of dwellings in the area:	7,387
Number of connections to Company's Mains as at 31st December, 1971	7,708

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The following services are operated:-

Refuse Collection
Refuse Disposal
Cesspool Emptying
Maintenance of Cesspool Emptying Sites
Operation and Maintenance of Sewage Disposal Works and Plants
Rodent and Other Pest Control
Litter Bin Maintenance
Litter Collection including Removal and Disposal of Abandoned Cars
Public Conveniences

The comparable figures are:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Whole Days lost	1,223	1,370	1,342
Holiday Man/Hours	5,304	5,437	5,969
Absent Man/Hours	597	842	833
Illness Man/Hours	3,540	4,781	3,180
Total Men employed during Year	48	48	48

An additional seven employees were entitled to three weeks holiday and the increased leave entitlement is reflected in the hours shown. This entitlement will be extended to all those with over one year's service in the year 1972.

Although the present complement is 48 and two men have been engaged during the year, two part-time men ceased their employment.

	<u>Normal Working</u>			<u>Overtime</u>		
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Refuse Collection including Roadside Scavenging	36,584	36,299	38,131	2,780	2,540	2,494
Refuse Disposal	1,737	1,975	2,022	466	390	557
Cesspool Emptying (including Buckets)	19,515	19,986	20,767	5,902	6,759	5,638
Maintenance of Cesspool Emptying Sites	851	722	844	654	446	622
Operation and Maintenance of Sewage Disposal Works and Plants	12,322	11,829	12,127	4,851	4,939	5,103
Pest Control	1,236	1,003	1,640	6	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,703	1,030	1,054	68	29	77
Fitters	3,747	3,746	3,872	1,041	862	906

REFUSE COLLECTION

The continuance of the incentive bonus scheme was accepted after the trial period and the scheme has now been working a full year. The scheme is designed to increase productivity by 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % and this is being achieved. The Shelvoke and Drewry vehicles have now been delivered. During the year it was also necessary to replace the largest vehicle and you now have three vehicles first built in 1971. If proposals approved by the Transport Advisory Committee are accepted, a further vehicle will be purchased in 1972. The purchase of a slightly larger vehicle than that at first proposed for roadside litter collection has enabled this service to be extended to the removal of bulky items from households. This service to ratepayers has largely been carried out during the daytime rather than in overtime as previously. A total of 332 requests was received.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The disposal of abandoned cars has been the greatest problem as it is necessary to rely on established car breaking firms to dispose of accumulations of these vehicles. The present legislation does nothing to ensure that a car which has reached the end of its useful life is disposed of by its registered owner in a manner which will not scar the countryside.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

One new 1500 gallon cesspool emptying vehicle was received during the year and the fleet of six vehicles, with one spare, has been maintained. After acceptance by the employees, an incentive bonus scheme was implemented on 15th November, 1971 and has been working successfully and an increase in productivity of an average of 40% has been achieved.

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Requests	5,024	5,120	5,464
Loads	12,044	12,548	12,777

Bucket emptying was ceased during the year.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SITES

The seven disposal sites have been maintained and the discharge into the Maidstone Borough sewers has been continued.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANTS AND SEWAGE PUMPING STATIONS

Plants:

Shrubsole Drive, Sandling
Cobfield, Chart Sutton
Orchard Bank, Chart Sutton
Court Broomes, East Sutton
Green Lane, Platts Heath
Northdown, Stockbury
Cedar Gardens, Stockbury

Pumping Stations:

Headcorn
Langley
Forge Leas, Harrietsham
Orchard Glade, Headcorn
Hollingbourne
Robins Avenue, Lenham
Captains Close, Sutton Valence
Hockers Lane, Detling
Ware Street, Thurnham
Hook Lane, Harrietsham
Aylesford Forstal

All these installations have been maintained.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

The Works at Harrietsham, Headcorn, Leeds, Lenham, Sutton Valence and Ulcombe have been regularly maintained.

Upward flow clarifiers have been provided at Harrietsham.

An extended aeration plant dealing with drainage from the Safeway Foods Complex was taken over on 22nd October, 1971.

PEST CONTROL

A full time Rodent Operator commenced his duties on 19th April, 1971 on the retirement of Mr. F. Smith.

The requests received were:-

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>		<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Rats	235	226			
Mice	43	55			
Wasps	135	39			
Flies	8	4			
Fleas	5	7	Visits	598	536
Ants	9	9	Surveys	206	179
Beetles	12	3	Bodies Found	341	446
Cockroaches	5	2			
	<u>452</u>	<u>345</u>			

GENERAL SUMMARY

Estimated resident population	..	..	..	..	..	21,190	
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	56,796	
Persons per acre	..	..	..	..	..	0.373	
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population - crude	..	..	..	..	15.5		
- corrected	..	..	..	..	17.1		
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population - crude	..	..	..	..	10.7		
- corrected	..	..	..	..	10.3		
				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Births	..	..	..	..	156	173	329
Deaths	..	..	..	..	120	106	226
Excess of births over deaths	..				36	67	103
Pulmonary tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population						..	0.04
Other tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population						..	-
Cancer death rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	2.03		
Pneumonia (all forms) death rate per 1,000 population					..	0.23	

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
IN THE YEAR 1971

AREA	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000		
		Live Births	All Causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other Cancer	Total deaths under 1 year	Still Births
England and Wales	16.0	11.6	-	*	-	*	18	12
Hollingbourn R.D.	17.1	10.3	0.04	0.51	1.51		30	6
Maidstone R.D.	21.8	9.6	-	0.48	2.04		13	11
Malling R. D.	18.1	11.8	0.09	0.70	1.38		14	13
Maidstone Borough	16.6	10.7	0.02	0.61	1.72		7	11
County of Kent	17.2	10.4	0.02	0.66	1.77		13	11

* Figures not yet available

